

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNE 8, 2007

RIVER HEIGHTS/HOSPITAL AREA REDEVELOPMENT PLAN TO ADDRESS GROWTH, CHANGE

Medicine Hat – The City of Medicine Hat is undertaking the next step of the Area Redevelopment Plan to accommodate growth and changes in the River Heights/Hospital neighbourhood.

Participants are invited to a Design Workshop on **Thursday, June 14 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.** at the Esplanade Studio Theatre to work with planners and designers to create solutions to achieve the long-term objectives for the neighbourhood. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m.

"The River Heights / Hospital neighbourhood is receiving various pressures for commercial and residential development," says Werner Fischer, City Planning Officer. "An Area Redevelopment Plan can help sort out what types of developments are going to be the best fit for this neighbourhood."

An Area Redevelopment Plan guides a neighbourhood's future land use and redevelopment. Public consultation is a part of the planning process to identify the interests and priorities within a neighbourhood.

The City started the River Heights/Hospital Area Redevelopment Plan process in April with a survey to residents and stakeholders in the River Heights/Hospital area.

The first of two workshops was held on June 2. The workshop was an opportunity for residents to share and discuss their ideas about future development policies for the neighbourhood.

The City, with its consultant EBA Engineering, is establishing an Area Redevelopment Plan – River Heights/Hospital Steering Committee. If you are interested in filling one of the positions please contact Werner Fischer at the City's Planning, Building and Development department at 529-8375.

Pre-registration is recommended for the Design Workshop as spaces are limited. To pre-register call EBA Engineering Consultants at 1-877-777-4166 ext. 831 or e-mail tschmidt@eba.ca or ywanq@eba.ca

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For further information, please contact:

Werner Fischer
Planning Officer
City of Medicine Hat
(403) 529-8375

Jody Lamb
Corporate Communications Manager
City of Medicine Hat
(403) 502-8071

